

TRIBUNAL OF INQUIRY INTO ISSUES RELATING TO THE COMPLAINTS

PROCESSES IN THE DEFENCE FORCES AND THE CULTURE

SURROUNDING THE MAKING OF COMPLAINTS

(‘Defence Forces Tribunal’)

Established by the Government under the Tribunals of Inquiry (Evidence) Acts 1921 to 2011 by statutory instrument signed by the Tánaiste and Minister for Defence on the 20th day of June 2024.

NOTICE OF INTENDED ORDER FOR DISCOVERY

TAKE NOTICE that the Defence Forces Tribunal intends to make an Order on a date not before 19 May 2026 requiring the Chief of Staff of the Defence Forces to make discovery, on oath, of documents relevant to the Tribunal’s Inquiry which are or have been in his possession, power or procurement.

The intended Order for Discovery comprises of the following categories of discovery:

1. The annual performance appraisal reports of the Platoon Commander in the Army Apprentice School for the years 1990, 1991 and 1992;
2. All documents relating to or arising out of the decision to remove the Platoon Commander from the Army Apprentice School in 1991;
3. All documents relating to or arising out of admonition proceedings arising from the Military Police investigation into Ill Treatment of Inferiors in the Army Apprentice School in 1991;
4. All documents relating to Report(s) sent by the Officer in Charge of Technical Training School at the Naval Depot to the Officer Commanding of the Naval Base and Dockyard during the period 1991 to 1993; and
5. All documents relating to Redress of Wrongs complaints made by members of the 34th Platoon in respect of their proposed or intended discharge from the Defence Forces during the period 1989 to 1992.

The term 'documents' includes but is not limited to all statements, notes, records of investigations and interviews, reports, responses, determinations, recordings, memoranda and records of written and electronic correspondence and communications of any kind.

The Tribunal considers that in respect of documents falling within the aforementioned categories (1) to (5) of the intended Order for Discovery, it is appropriate, at this time, that the said documents be discovered with anonymisation or pseudonymisation of names and other information which might lead to the identification of persons. In this regard, the Discovery Protocol governing anonymization and pseudonymization will apply.

The terms of the intended Order for Discovery, the applicable Discovery Protocol and the Tribunal's Terms of Reference are available on the Tribunal's website www.toidf.ie and can be provided upon request by email (info@toidf.ie) or by telephone (01-539 1550)

Persons who believe that they may be affected by the terms of the intended Order for Discovery may make submissions, in writing, to the Tribunal by close of business on 18 May 2026.